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## FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC.

The Washington Star of yesterday afternoon apprehends that the nature of Meade's recent advanced has been but that of an extensive reconnoissance in force, and that the Rebels have nowhere ventured to meet our army engaged on it, out from behind their elaborate net-work of fortifications." It was currently rumored in army circles in Washington yesterday evening that General Meade would at once return with his army to the vicinity of that city. The New York Tribune's Washington correspondent states as a rumor, that the Government has given up all hopes of General Meade's making any real advance against the Confederates, and has ordered General Hooker back to take command of the Army of the Potomac, there yet being time to make a vigorous campaign against General Lee. A Washington telegram last night states that the trains are making regular trips on the Orange and Alexandria railroad, as far out as Rappahannock Station. The road had not been disturbed. Parties from the vicinity of Culpeper bring no definite news from the army, but confirm the statement that no regular engagement had taken place up to Tuesday afternoon.

[There is a report current here, that the army of General Meade has fallen back some distance.]

## FROM CHATTANOOGA.

CHATTANOOGA, Dec. 1.—Generals Hooker and Palmer evacuated Ringgold this morning, after burning the mills, depots, public buildings and railway bridge.

A cavalry reconnoissance 23 miles southward discovered no Confederates, but they were found in force at Tunnell Hill.

The railroad from Ringgold to Chickamauga was destroyed by Gen. Hooker.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 2.—A special dispatch from Chattanooga says in the battle at Ringgold the 7th Ohio suffered severely, losing Col. Creighton and Lt. Colonel Crane, killed, and Adjutant Baker, wounded. Only one commissioned officer escaped unhurt. The 76th Ohio also suffered severely.

A Washington dispatch to a Philadelphia paper says that intelligence of a trustworthy nature had been received to the effect that General Bragg's army, or the main portion of it, had already made good its retreat in the neighborhood of Dalton before the recent movement of the Federal forces was undertaken, and that the assault at Missionary Ridge was with merely the rear portion of it.

A country-woman of Jenny Lind, by name Mademoiselle Enequist, has made her appearance at a few London concerts, where she was pronounced equal to Jenny.

The Empress of the French has ordered from a Spanish artist a grand picture representing her visit to Madrid, and which picture is to be hung in the Tuileries. Her Majesty gave 50,000 reals to the servants of the Queen of Spain's palace and made large presents to several charitable establishments.

## FIGHT NEAR GERMANIA.

[From the Rich. Examiner, Nov. 30.]

An important and very desperate partial engagement took place on the Rapid Ann, near Germania Ford, on Friday last, in which we gained a decided advantage, took a number of prisoners, and captured and destroyed an ordnance train of an hundred wagons and other valuable property. From officers who took part in the fight and were wounded, we have obtained some particulars.

On Thursday night French's corps, of the Yankee army, crossed to the south bank at Germania Ford, and threw up entrenchments. Friday they advanced towards Spottsylvania Court-House, with the design, it was thought, of making a flank attack upon Johnson's division of Ewell's corps. At the same time Johnson's division was moving in the direction of Germania Ford. The two forces, about 2 o'clock P. M., came in collision in a field, about a mile and a half from the river, and a very desperate battle ensued. From the beginning of the action until nightfall, when the fighting ceased, we drove the enemy at all points.

Just before dark they succeed in getting into their entrenchments, from some of which we dislodged them. Our loss in killed and wounded is about five hundred. Most of the wounded have already been brought to this city.—The enemy's loss is not known with any accuracy, but is believed to be three times as great as ours. We took a considerable number of prisoners, but have not been able to learn the precise number. Whilst the above battle was going on Gen. Rosser made a dash upon an ordnance train of the enemy, which was moving in the rear of French's corps, and captured ninety-odd prisoners, one hundred ordnance wagons, forty ambulances and four hundred mules. It being found impossible to bring off the wagons, most of them were destroyed, but the prisoners, mules and ambulances were secured.

## LEGISLATURE OF MISSOURI.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., December 2.—In the Senate to-day, an act providing for calling a new State Convention was tabled by a tie vote, the President voting in the affirmative. In the House Mr. Wagner offered a series of resolutions to the following effect: The abolition of slavery; that the insurgents lay down or deliver up their arms, and surrender the forts and arsenals—the people of the South to give up their leaders; all persons who have wilfully taken up arms against the Government to be incapacitated from holding Federal office; all other people South to be restored to their ancient rights, and that "our Senators and Representatives be instructed to vote for an amendment to the Constitution forever prohibiting slavery in the United States."

A fire occurred in New York yesterday morning which destroyed several large buildings on Seventh avenue, principally used as tenement houses, and rendering a large number of families homeless. The loss is set down at \$100,000, principally insured. During the progress of the fire, J. Brown, foreman of Hose company 30, at the imminent risk of his life, entered a third story of a house which was in flames, and rescued a child from certain death. Some five hundred persons witnessed and enthusiastically applauded the act.

## FROM KNOXVILLE.

CINCINNATI, December 1st.—The correspondent of the Commercial telegraphs from Cumberland Gap to-night that all the available forces of the U. S. Army have been sent from there to intercept Gen. Longstreet's retreat into Virginia.

CUMBERLAND PASS, Nov. 30.—Col. Byrd repulsed Wheeler's attack at Kinston on Wednesday last. Wheeler then retired towards Knoxville.

TAZEWELL, Tenn., Dec. 1—6 P. M.—The reports of scouts sent out from the advance cavalry outposts indicate that Gen. Longstreet has commenced to retreat from his position around Knoxville. A large force of cavalry is now advancing on Maynardsville, which it is thought is the flanking column of the main body of Longstreet or Jones. The main body is probably moving off the Rutledge road.

TAZEWELL, Tenn., Dec. 1, 8½ P. M.—Reports from the outposts this evening concur, and establish the probability that Longstreet is retreating from Knoxville towards Virginia.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 2.—A dispatch from Gen. Burnside, dated Nov. 25, says that the Confederates on the 25th moved up three brigades and attacked his brigade in a strong position on South River, three miles from Knoxville. A hard fight ensued and the Confederates were repulsed with a loss of 150 killed. The position was strengthened, and although the Confederates moved down a larger force with the intention of renewing the attack, Gen. Burnside believed it could be held. He has been able, by using the roads yet left open, to keep up a supply of provisions. Reinforcements are now on the way to him.

The report from Knoxville, received through a Cincinnati paper, that an attempt by the Confederates to cross the river on Sunday brought on a general engagement, which resulted in the defeat of the Confederates and the capture of Gen. Wheeler's division, five thousand strong is untrue—as Gen. Wheeler's command is cavalry, and the surrender of so large a mounted force, is certainly highly improbable.

A dispatch from Cincinnati states that the report that General Morgan is in Canada is not credited in that place, but it was believed there that he has crossed the Ohio into Virginia.—The Toronto, (Canada,) Leader of Tuesday, says the report of Gen. Morgan's arrival there is untrue, but a dispatch from Toronto, yesterday, says: "If Gen. Morgan is in Canada he is keeping very close. It is reported in London that he reached Windsor, opposite to Detroit." A dispatch from Louisville states that Captains Sheldon and Taylor, who escaped with Gen. Morgan, have been captured about six miles from that place, and been committed to the county jail.

The New York News claims that Mr. Gunther, the newly elected Mayor, is a peace democrat.